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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,960	04/08/2004	Donald S. Smith	030877 (BLL-0180)	9543
36192 7590 12/27/2007 CANTOR COLBURN LLP - BELL SOUTH 20 Church Street 22nd Floor Hartford, CT 06103				
EXAMINER				
HOQUE, NAFIZ E				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
4178				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/27/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/820,960

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

NAFIZ E. HOQUE

Art Unit

4178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-6, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pratt et al. (US Pub 2001/0040926 A1).

Regarding claim 1, Pratt discloses an adapter for test equipment (Fig. 1), the adapter comprising: a positive connector for making electrical connection with a first telecommunications line (Fig. 1, Element 23, Uppermost Clip); a positive lead connected to said positive connector (Fig. 1, Element 21-1); a negative connector for making electrical connection with a second telecommunications line (Fig. 1, Element 23, Bottommost Clip); a negative lead connected to said negative connector (Fig. 1, Element 21-1); a low pass filter connected to said positive lead and negative lead (Fig. 1, Element 24); a positive butt-set connection connected to said low pass filter (Fig. 1, Element 48-1); and a negative butt-set connection connected to said low pass filter (Fig. 1, Element 48-2).

Regarding claim 2, Pratt discloses said low pass filter is an inductor-capacitor filter (Para 0009, Fig. 1, Element 24).

Regarding claim 3, Pratt discloses said low pass filter includes: a first inductor in series with said positive lead and said positive butt-set connection (Fig. 1, Element 43); a second inductor in series with said negative lead and said negative butt-set connection (Fig. 1, Element 44); and a capacitor in parallel with said positive lead and said negative lead (Fig. 1, Element 53, when switch 55 is closed).

Regarding claim 4, Pratt discloses said low pass filter includes: a first inductor in series with said positive lead and said positive butt-set connection (Fig. 1, Element 43); a second inductor in series with said negative lead and said negative butt-set connection (Fig. 1, Element 44); and a capacitor connected to said positive lead (Fig. 1, Element 53).

Regarding claim 5, Pratt discloses said low pass filter further includes a second capacitor connected to said negative lead (Fig. 1, Element 57).

NOTE: When switch 59 is closed, element 57 is connected to negative lead.

Regarding claim 6, Pratt discloses a visual indicator connected to said low pass filter providing a visual indication of high frequency signals dissipated through said low pass filter (Para 0013).

Regarding claim 9, Pratt discloses said positive connector and said negative connector are clips (Para 0008, Fig. 1, Element 23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pratt et al. (US Pub 2001/0040926 A1) in view of Vitenberg (US 6,813,343).

Regarding claim 7, Pratt discloses said low pass filter includes: a first inductor in series with said positive lead and said positive butt- set connection (Fig. 1, Element 43); a second inductor in series with said negative lead and said negative butt-set connection (Fig. 1, Element 44); and a capacitor connected to said positive lead (Fig. 1, Element 53); a second capacitor connected to said negative lead (Fig. 1, Element 57);

NOTE: When switch 59 is closed, element 57 is connected to negative lead.

Pratt does not disclose a resistor connected to said capacitor; a second resistor connected to said second capacitor; a visual indicator connected to said resistor and said second resistor.

Vitenberg discloses a resistor connected to said capacitor; a second resistor connected to said second capacitor; a visual indicator connected to said resistor and said second resistor (Col. 6, Lines 31 - 45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Pratt with teaching of Vitenberg, to use current-limiting resistors on a visual indicator to have an alert indication advising the technician.

Regarding claim 8, Vitenberg further discloses said visual indicator is a light emitting diode (Fig. 1, Element 709).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NAFIZ E. HOQUE whose telephone number is (571)270-1811. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F Alternate Fridays Off 7:30 - 5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7305. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NH
/Nafiz E Hoque/
December 18, 2007

/Hai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4178